Bullock Announces Directors of Labor, Corrections and Commerce

HELENA – At a news conference in the state capitol, Governor-elect Steve Bullock announced his appointments to run the Departments of Labor, Corrections and Commerce.

"These hardworking Montanans have the work ethic and know-how to keep moving our state forward," said Bullock. "I'm excited to hit the ground running with some of the best and brightest our state has to offer and I look forward to working with them to put Montanans first."

Mike Batista, a native of Great Falls, will serve as the Director of the **Department of Corrections**. A law enforcement veteran with 30 years of experience, Batista is currently the Administrator of the Division of Criminal Investigations at the Montana Department of Justice, a position he has held for the last 19 years. Batista was previously an Intelligence Manager for the U.S. Department of Justice, an investigator for the Montana Department of Justice and an Instructor for the State and Local Anti-Terrorism Training Program in Tallahassee, FL. Batista, a graduate of C.M. Russell High School, received his Bachelor's Degree from Eastern Washington University and completed Government Leadership Training from the University of Colorado. He also graduated from the FBI Academy, DEA Division in Quantico, VA. Batista resides in Helena with his wife Shelly. They have two sons.

Pam Bucy, a Townsend native, will serve as the Director of the Department of Labor, where she most recently worked as the Chief Legal Counsel. Previously, she served as Executive Assistant Attorney General under Attorney General Mike McGrath. Bucy's pro bono legal work has earned her awards from the Montana State Bar, and she received the Governor's Award for Excellence in 2006 and was with the private law firm Luxan and Murfitt in Helena. Prior to beginning her legal career, Bucy operated a small business and served as the Assistant Manager of the Livingston Chamber of Commerce. Bucy holds a bachelor of arts from Rocky Mountain College and received her law degree at the University of Montana, where she assisted at the Indian Law Clinic. She lives in Helena with her husband Mark and their three children.

Meg O'Leary, from Big Sky, will serve as Director of the **Department of Commerce**. O'Leary comes to the administration from Big Sky Resort, where she is the Director of Sales & Marketing. A Helena native, O'Leary has served on the Big Sky Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Big Sky Transportation District, and the Big Sky Lodging Association. She was a leading advocate in securing new direct flights into the Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport, including the non-stop flight from New York. O'Leary was named the Tourism Person of the Year by the State of Montana in

2012. O'Leary is a graduate of the University of Montana and is married to Blair Heinke.

Earlier, Bullock announced members of his transition team and asked for applicants from across the state to send in their resumes.